



Docket: 2156 CON 4 (203-2287 CON 4)

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Nicholas et al.

EXAMINER: Gary Jackson

SERIAL No.: 10/642,918

GROUP: Art Unit 3731

FILED: August 18, 2003

DATED: November 22, 2006

TITLE: **ANASTOMOSIS INSTRUMENT
AND METHOD**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

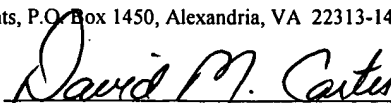
Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO/SB/08A is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the U.S. patent documents are not provided in accordance with the waiver of that requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

The listed items were cited in one or more applications to which the present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120. Accordingly, pursuant to M.P.E.P. §609.02, these references are believed to have already been considered. Applicants submit this Information Disclosure Statement to ensure that these references are printed on the face of the issued patent.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Dated: November 22, 2006


David M. Carter

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

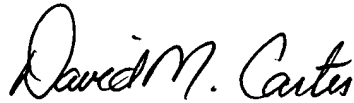
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.

Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

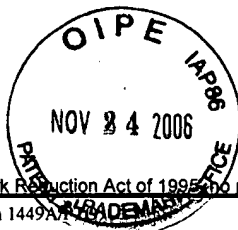
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David M. Carter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David M. Carter
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DMC/dag



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/642,918
Filing Date	August 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Nicholas et al.
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Examiner Name	Gary Jackson
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS *WITHOUT REFERENCES*

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2,968,041	1/17/1961	SKOLD	
		3,152,336	10/13/1964	BRADY	
		3,575,038	04/13/1971	MALLETT	
		3,741,025	06/26/1973	RUSSELL	
		3,856,016	12/24/1974	DAVIS	
		3,908,662	09/30/1975	RAZLOV ET AL.	
		3,954,108	05/04/1976	DAVIS	
		4,152,920	05/08/1979	GREEN	
		4,201,314	5/6/1980	SAMMUELS ET AL.	
		4,226,242	10/7/1980	JARVIK	
		4,242,902	10/7/1981	JARVIK	
		4,299,224	11/10/1981	NOILES	
		4,316,468	2/23/1982	KLIEMAN ET AL.	
		4,325,376	4/20/1982	KLIEMAN ET AL.	
		4,372,316	2/8/1983	BLAKE, III ET AL.	
		4,408,603	10/11/1983	BLAKE, III ET AL.	
		4,412,539	11/1/1983	JARVIK	
		4,425,915	2/17/1984	IVANOV	
		4,430,997	2/14/1984	DIGIOVANNI ET AL.	
		4,432,925	8/6/1985	BLAKE, III ET AL.	
		4,452,376	6/5/1984	KLIEMAN ET AL.	
		4,466,436	8/21/1984	LEE	
		4,480,640	11/6/1984	BECHT	
		4,488,543	12/18/1984	TORNIER	
		4,493,317	1/15/1985	KLAUE	
		4,503,848	3/12/1985	CASPAR ET AL.	
		4,509,518	4/9/1985	MCGARRY ET AL.	
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		4,534,351	8/13/1985	ROTHFUSS ET AL.	
		4,586,503	5/6/1986	KIRSCH ET AL.	
		4,598,711	7/8/1986	DENIEGA	

Examiner

Date Considered

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS WITHOUT REFERENCES

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,611,595	9/16/1986	KLIEMAN ET AL.	
		4,616,650	10/14/1986	GREEN ET AL.	
		4,700,703	10/20/1987	RESNICK ET AL.	
		4,712,549	3/29/1988	KIRSCH ET AL.	
		4,733,664	3/29/1988	KIRSCH ET AL.	
		4,759,364	7/26/1988	BOEBEL	
		4,809,695	3/7/1989	GWATHMEY ET AL.	
		4,821,939	4/18/1989	GREEN	
		4,883,176	11/28/1989	HART ET AL.	
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		4,983,176	1/8/1991	CUSHMAN ET AL.	
		5,030,226	7/9/1991	GREEN ET AL.	
		5,057,111	10/15/1991	PARK	
		5,104,395	4/14/1992	THORNTON ET AL.	
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		5,340,360	8/23/1994	STEFANCHIK	
		5,346,115	9/13/1994	PEROUSE ET AL.	
		5,364,399	11/15/1994	LOWERY ET AL.	
		5,423,826	6/13/1995	COATES ET AL.	
		5,501,698	3/26/1996	ROTH ET AL.	
		5,503,617	4/2/1996	JAKO	
		5,549,612	8/27/1996	YAPP ET AL.	
		5,762,256	6/9/1998	MASTRI ET AL.	
		5,829,447	3/11/1998	STEVENS ET AL.	
		5,944,736	8/31/1999	TAYLOR ET AL.	

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